

Cylch 10th Annual Conference: Creating Sustainable Communities Through Recycling

Outcomes from the facilitated session on
Day 2, Thursday 25th October 2007

Session: Update on the Wales Waste Strategy review

Presentation: The Wales Waste Strategy review: where it's at
Jasper Roberts, Head of Waste Policy and Local Environmental Quality,
Welsh Assembly Government

Facilitated discussion: The Wales Waste Strategy review: where it's going

Delegate and panel discussions to consider implications of the review
and feed back to the Welsh Assembly Government.

Panel members:

Jasper Roberts, Head of Waste Policy and Local Environmental Quality,
Welsh Assembly Government

Ceri Davies, Strategy Manager Wales, Environment Agency Wales
Mal Williams, Chief Executive, Cylch – Wales Community Recycling
Network

Lee Marshall, Chair, Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee
(LARAC)

Discussions to include:

- the 70% recycling and composting target - what would that mean for you?
- addressing the impacts of waste on climate change - how important is it?

Delegates were asked in their groups to provide questions or comments to the panel to discuss based on Jasper Roberts' presentation.

Below are the outcomes of this session:

Questions asked about the Waste Strategy Review
What about having carbon-based targets in the strategy?
Why can't we have some emphasis on volume to encourage plastic recycling?
Why are there no targets for other waste streams, e.g. plastic?
With the message of [separating] different waste streams at source, how will this be achieved where household space for waste storage is limited – flats, modern housing

etc.?
Why 30% energy from waste in the target? (England 1; Wales 0) – 30% of what? I.e. what will be in the 150 kg-per-person mix? NB. Note – it is not a 30% Energy from Waste (EfW) target, it is that a maximum of 30% of waste can be treated via EfW.
When is WAG going to introduce triple-bottom-line tendering processes?
Can legislation influence local government procurement towards purchasing reuse rather than new?
Can we be confident that funding will be there?
Topics /comments provided
We welcome the direction of the Welsh Assembly Government waste strategy, in particular that it is driven by resource management and low carbon [emissions]
Combine climate change and peak oil impacts in all forward assessments
Waste minimisation and reuse targets
Do not lose sight of home composting
60% processed in UK; 70% in China – therefore need to define collection process and ensure reprocessing is available in the UK
Small scale solutions
The strategy should be inclusive of all sectors
Local authorities need to share resources with community recycling organisations
Need more coverage of social outcomes, retaining benefits in local economy and advice to consumers on how their purchasing power can help locally
Plan ok. Needs funding, partnership and continued political will.

Summary of the questions / topics / comments provided:

- National and local government procurement processes – there should be a greater emphasis on sustainability
- Waste Strategy targets – there should be more emphasis on carbon emissions targets or volume targets rather than tonnage. Should also have targets for other waste streams.
- Targets and forwards assessments – criteria need to be looked at, e.g. climate change/peak oil impacts/ waste minimisation/reuse.
- Strategy to include all sectors – need to work together, e.g. Local Authorities with community recycling organisations
- Focus on social outcomes and helping local communities

The outcomes of this session will be passed onto the Welsh Assembly Government for consideration within the Waste Strategy review.